

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 NSC-05 EB-04 INR-05  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 L-01 /040 W  
-----030110 101812Z /47  
P R 101722Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0997  
USICA WASHDC  
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

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LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETEL, GW  
SUBJECT: L W FREQUENCY 209

REF: (A) STATE 194441; (B) BONN 10663 (EXDIS);  
(C) BONN 12555

1. EMBOFF MET WITH VENHAUS AND KRATH OF BPM TO DISCUSS MEETING DATE AND ISSUES POSED REFTEL A. BOTH GERMANS AGREED THESE ISSUES WERE STILL OUTSTANDING AND NEEDED RESOLUTION BEFORE 209 AGREEMENT WAS FINALIZED. KRATH WAS EAGER TO MEET ASAP TO RESOLVE THESE ISSUES BUT BECAUSE OF PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED CONFERENCES, COULD NOT DO SO BEFORE THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9-13 IN BONN.

2. KRATH SAID THAT DEUTSCHE WELLE (DW) WAS NOT PLEASED WITH THE U.S. SUGGESTION CONCERNING KIGALI SINCE IT FELT IT RECEIVED NOTHING IN RETURN. HE NOTED THAT AS AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY, DW NEED NOT FOLLOW THE BIDDING OF THE FRG. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT AS DW  
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QUASI-INDEPENDENT AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, IT APPEARED THAT THE FRG HAD A GREAT DEAL TO SAY CONCERNING DW'S OPERATION. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE USG HAS BEEN DEALING WITH THE BPM ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT WE EXPECTED THE BPM WOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE INTERFACE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND OTHER GERMAN AGENCIES, INCLUDING DW ON THIS ISSUE, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE BPM WOULD

BE OBTAINING 209. EMBOFF STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH THE  
USG WISHED TO RESOLVE AS MANY OF THE DETAILS OF 209  
AS POSSIBLE DURING THE OCTOBER MEETING, AT A MINIMUM  
WE NEEDED AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BETWEEN DW AND  
THE VOA. DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENT COULD BE SETTLED  
LATER IF NECESSARY. THE BPM OFFICIALS AGREED TO  
CONTACT DW, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND THE INTERIOR  
MINISTRY ON THIS PART OF THE ISSUE AND STRESS THAT THE  
U.S. SUGGESTION IS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE 209  
ARRANGEMENTS.

3. VENHAUS NOTED THAT FOR THE MUNICH/ERCHING  
FACILITY, THE QUESTIONS OF ANTENNA CHANGE AND OWNER-  
SHIP OF THE PROPERTY WERE OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE.  
HE SPECULATED THAT SINCE THE ANTENNA CHANGE WOULD  
COST A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY, IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR  
THE FRG TO SECURE SUCH FUNDS IF IT DID NOT HAVE  
OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY. KRATH EXPLAINED THAT THERE  
WAS AT LEAST ONE SCHEME AFOOT TO HAVE THE BPM  
OPERATE THE MUNICH/ERCHING TRANSMITTER FOR SEVERAL  
YEARS, THEN BUILD ITS OWN TRANSMITTER. IF THIS IDEA  
TAKES FORM, IT WOULD ALSO RAISE QUESTIONS CONCERNING  
FINANCING THE ANTENNA CHANGE.

4. VENHAUS AND KRATH ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WAS NOT  
A ONE-ON-ONE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE AUTHORI-  
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ZATION TO MODERNIZE HOLZKIRCHEN AND THE RELINQUISHMENT  
OF 209 TO THE FRG. THEY STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THEY  
EXPECTED THE FRG ACTION TO IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE OF

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 NSC-05 EB-04 INR-05  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 L-01 /040 W  
-----030053 101811Z /47

P R 101722Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0998  
USICA WASHDC  
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

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LIMDIS

THE 209 NEGOTIATIONS CONSIDERABLY SO THAT VIRTUALLY ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FRG USE OF 209 COULD BE COMPLETED THIS FALL. EMBOFF AGREED THAT THE FRG ACTION HAD BEEN IN THE SPIRIT OF MUTUAL COOPERATION AND THAT THE USG ALSO WANTED THE ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING 209 TO BE FINALIZED THIS FALL.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN THE BPM AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCERNING THE FRG APPROACH TOWARD THE DISPOSITION OF 209. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PURSUING THIS DIFFERENCE WOULD BE UNDESIREABLE AND PROBABLY COUNTER PRODUCTIVE TO OUR INTERESTS. THUS WE ARE TAKING THE POSITION THAT THE BPM, WHICH HAS BEEN THE LEADING FRG NEGOTIATOR IN PAST 209 DISCUSSIONS, CONTINUES TO REPRESENT THE OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC FRG ATTITUDE. WE WILL MAINTAIN THIS POSITION AND MOVE FORWARD TOWARD THE OCTOBER MEETING IN THIS SPIRIT

TO EMPHASIZE THIS APPROACH, WE HAVE SENT VENHAUS A LETTER STATING THAT WE RECOMMENDED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE OCTOBER DATES TO WASHINGTON. WE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT HE MIGHT WISH TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF CONVENING AN EARLIER FRG-EMBASSY MEETING IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC ISSUES IN QUESTION SO THAT BOTH SIDES CAN BETTER PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE OCTOBER MEETING. IN THIS WAY, WE EXPECT TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION OF THE OFFICIAL FRG ATTITUDE.

6. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT, ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO DETERMINE, THROUGH RECORDS AND THE MEMORIES OF PARTICIPANTS, HOW STRONG THE FRG COMMITMENT WAS, DURING THE 1975 LF/MF GENEVA CONFERENCE, TO ALLOWING THE U.S. THE USE OF 209.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE TO OCTOBER DATES, LIST OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS ASAP, AND

COMMENTS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RADIO BROADCASTING, RADIO FREQUENCIES, MEETINGS  
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**Draft Date:** 10 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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